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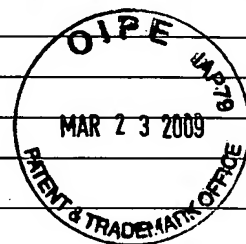
PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/635,319
	Filing Date	August 6, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Benjamin Garden et al.
	Art Unit	3775
	Examiner Name	James L. Swiger III
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	MSDI-67/PC933.00



ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Krieg DeVault LLP		
Signature	<i>Douglas A. Collier</i>		
Printed name	Douglas A. Collier		
Date	March 20, 2009	Reg. No.	43,556

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

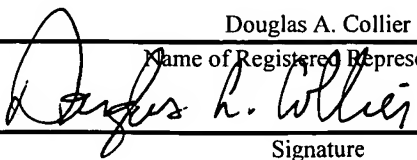
In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner:
Benjamin Garden et al.	)	James L. Swiger III
	)	
Application Serial No. 10/635,319	)	Group Art Unit: 3775
	)	
Filed: August 6, 2003	)	Atty Docket No.:
	)	MSDI-67/PC933.00
	)	
SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES FOR	)	March 20, 2009
STABILIZING THE SPINE AND PLACING	)	
STABILIZATION SYSTEMS	)	

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 5, 2009, please enter and consider the following. No fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed. However, please provide any extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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